

7 are reported to be strong Hearst men.

Some inferences regarding the approaching Presidential convention of the Democratic party may be drawn from dispatches of the 8th from St. Louis of the results of Democratic primaries with reference to the governorship of Missouri. They report that Joseph W. Folk, the circuit attorney of St. Louis, who has come into national prominence through his prosecutions of the local political ring and its "business man" confederates, has won his fight for the nomination. In the primaries of the 7th in eleven counties Mr. Folk is reported to have had sweeping victories in every precinct in every county save one, Lafayette county, which was carried by ex-Mayor James Reed, of Kansas City, by small majorities. Folk is now reported to have 286 uncontested delegates out of 356 necessary to nominate, while Reed has only 61. Harry B. Hawes had 111 votes, which he secured in St. Louis, but he has retired from the race. Judge James Gantt, of the Supreme Court, the only other candidate, has not a single delegate.

After a session of several days in Chicago (p. 72) the Socialist convention has adopted a national platform and nominated Presidential candidates. It is too long for complete quotation here, but we reproduce all the essential features:

We, the Socialist Party, in convention assembled, make our appeal to the American people as the defender and preserver of the idea of liberty and self-government, in which the nation was born. . . . To this idea of liberty the Republican and Democratic parties are equally false. . . . Our American institutions came into the world in the name of freedom. They have been seized upon by the capitalist class as the means of rooting out the idea of freedom from among the people. . . . By controlling all the sources of social revenue, the possessing class is able to silence what might be the voice of protest against the passing of liberty and the coming of tyranny. It completely controls the university and public school, the pulpit and the press, and the arts and literatures. . . . Our political institutions are also being used as the destroyers of that individual property upon which all liberty and opportunity

depend. The promise of economic independence to each man was one of the faiths upon which our institutions were founded. But, under the guise of defending private property, capitalism is using our political institutions to make it impossible for the vast majority of human beings ever to become possessors of private property in the means of life. Capitalism is the enemy and destroyer of essential private property. Its development is through the legalized confiscation of all that the labor of the working class produces, above its subsistence-wage. . . . Socialism comes to rescue the people from the fast increasing and successful assault of capitalism upon the liberty of the individual. As an American socialist party, we pledge our fidelity to the principles of international socialism, as embodied in the united thought and action of the socialists of all nations. . . . The tendency of the competitive wage system is to make labor's lowest condition the measure or rule of its universal condition. Industry and finance are no longer national but international, in both organization and results. . . . The socialist movement therefore is a world-movement. It knows of no conflicts of interest between the workers of one nation and the workers of another. . . . The socialist movement owes its birth and growth to that economic development or world-process which is rapidly separating a working or producing class from a possessing or capitalist class.

. . . . The fact that these two classes have not yet become fully conscious of their distinction from each other, the fact that the lines of division and interest may not yet be clearly drawn, does not change the fact of the class conflict. This class struggle is due to the private ownership of the means of employment, or the tools of production. Wherever and whenever man owned his own land and tools, and by them produced only the things which he used, economic independence was possible. But production, or the making of goods, has long ceased to be individual. The labor of scores, or even thousands, enters into almost every article produced. Production is now social or collective. . . . But this co-operation in production is not for the direct use of the things made by the workers who make them, but for the profit of the owners of the tools and means of production; and to this is due the present division of society into two classes. . . . A society based upon this class division carries in itself the seeds of its own destruction. Such a society is founded in fundamental injustice. There can be no possible basis for social peace, for individual freedom, for mental and moral harmony, except in the conscious and complete triumph of the working class as the only class that has the right or power to be. The socialist

program is not a theory imposed upon society for its acceptance or rejection. It is but the interpretation of what is, sooner or later, inevitable. . . . if the world is to be saved from chaos, from universal disorder and misery, it must be by the union of the workers of all nations in the socialist movement. The socialist party comes with the only proposition or program for intelligently and deliberately organizing the nation for the common good of all its citizens. . . . Socialism means that all those things upon which the people in common depend shall be by the people in common be owned and administered. It means that the tools of employment shall belong to their creators and users; that all production shall be for the direct use of the producers; that the making of goods for profit shall come to an end; that we shall all be workers together; and that all opportunities shall be open and equal to all men. To the end that the workers may seize every possible advantage that may strengthen them to gain complete control of the powers of government, and thereby the sooner establish the co-operative commonwealth, the Socialist party pledges itself to watch and work in both the economic and the political struggle for each successive immediate interest of the working class; for shortened days of labor and increases of wages; for the insurance of the workers against accident, sickness and lack of employment; for pensions for aged and exhausted workers; for the public ownership of the means of transportation, communication and exchange; for the graduated taxation of incomes, inheritances, franchises and land values, the proceeds to be applied to the public employment and improvement of the conditions of the workers; for the complete education of children, and their freedom from the workshop; for the equal suffrage of men and women; for the prevention of the use of the military against labor in the settlement of strikes; for the free administration of justice; for popular government, including initiative, referendum, proportional representation, equal suffrage and municipal home rule, and the recall of officers by their constituents; and for every gain or advantage for the workers that may be wrested from the capitalist system, and that may relieve the suffering and strengthen the hands of labor. We lay upon every man elected to any executive or legislative office the first duty of striving to procure whatever is for the workers' most immediate interest, and for whatever will lessen the economic and political powers of the capitalist, and increase the like powers of the worker. But, in so doing, we are using these remedial measures as means to the one great end of the co-operative commonwealth.

The chairman of the committee

which reported the foregoing platform was George D. Herron, of New York, the secretary was Thomas E. Will, of Kansas, and the other members were G. H. Strobell, M. W. Wilkins, Ben Hanford, Eugene V. Debs, Victor L. Berger, William Mailly and H. T. Titus. As candidate for President of the United States the convention on the 5th nominated Eugene V. Debs, of Indiana, and for Vice President Benjamin Hanford, of New York.

NEWS NOTES.

—Sir Henry M. Stanley, the explorer of Africa, died in London on the 10th at the age of 64.

—Maurus Jokai, the Hungarian novelist and journalist, died at Budapest on the 5th at the age of 79.

—At the election in Bolivia on the 1st the Liberal candidate, Col. Montes, was elected president of the Republic.

—The total admissions to the St. Louis exposition from the 2d to the 7th, both inclusive, were 137,708, of which 65,487 were paid admissions and 72,221 were free.

—The monthly statement of the United States treasury department (see p. 41) for April shows on hand April 30, 1904:

Gold reserve fund.....	\$150,000,000.00
Available cash.....	220,919,188.34
Total.....	\$370,919,188.34
On hand at close of last fiscal year, June 30, 1903.....	\$384,394,275.55
Decrease.....	\$13,475,087.21

—The Chicago celebration of the 25th year of Henry George's "Progress and Poverty" announced last week as being under the auspices of the Chicago Woman's Single Tax League (p. 73) is to be under the auspices of the Henry George association. It takes place on the 14th at 8. p. m., at the Northwestern Social settlement, corner of Noble and Augusta streets. George a Schilling is to preside, and Louis F. Post, Leonora Beck, Judge E. O. Brown and Raymond Robins are to speak.

—The monthly treasury report of receipts and expenditures of the Federal government (see p. 41) for the ten months ending April 30, 1904, shows the following:

Receipts:	
Tariff.....	\$220,570,957.42
Internal revenue.....	123,115,879.05
Miscellaneous.....	37,525,332.58
Total.....	\$451,612,170.65
Expenses:	
Civil and misc.....	\$418,825,028.05
War.....	96,922,857.14
Navy.....	84,403,600.93
Indians.....	8,727,955.81
Pensions.....	15,119,457.88
Interest.....	22,102,659.17
Total.....	\$449,153,598.98
Surplus.....	\$2,458,571.67

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE PRESIDENCY.

The Commoner (Dem.), May 6.—The Belmontification of the Parker boom was sudden and complete.

Emporia (Kan.) Times (Dem.), May 6.—But if Bryan is dead and buried why does the plutocratic press and all the corrupt and calcused interests of wealth of the country devote more space and attention to him than they do to any living man.

Goodhue County (Minn.) News (Dem.), May 7.—If the Brooklyn Eagle will kindly refrain from saying aught in praise of Williams, Towne, Shepard, Garvin, Folk, Miles and some twenty others who might be named, the Democratic party may be able at St. Louis to pick a satisfactory candidate.

The Commoner (Dem.), May 6.—The St. Paul Globe quotes a paragraph from a letter written by Mr. Bryan to the Iroquois club of Chicago and construes it to be an attack upon Mr. Hearst. The Globe editorial was not written in good faith. It is owned by one of the money magnates referred to, and the editor knows that Mr. Bryan was referring to the attempt now being made by representatives of the great corporations to commit the Democratic party to a platform similar to the New York platform and to a candidate like Judge Parker. Nothing was said in the letter that could be construed for or against Mr. Hearst. Mr. Bryan has observed strict neutrality as to the men who were favorable to the Kansas City platform.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican (Ind.), May 6 (weekly ed.).—It was tragic, after the welcome which Mr. Williams gave to Hearst's American in his Faneuil hall speech, to see how entirely that newspaper failed to serve to any good effect the candidacy of its owner and the efforts of Mr. Williams. In the eloquent vision of Mr. Williams, who held that radicalism had not been given a fair show in the newspapers, the new organ was to set forth its cause with fulness, sympathy and power. As a matter of fact, the Hearst paper in Boston entirely failed to do this. Important manifestos of the campaign which Mr. Williams made were not used, or appeared, after an appeal had been made to Mr. Hearst, in a way that robbed them of all potency; while Hearst meetings were minimized in the American's columns by men whose knowledge of Democratic politics was slight, and whose handling of these things maddened the Hearst people. It is not too much to say that there was profound disappointment and disgust with their organ in the Williams headquarters. As an effective agency it had amounted to nothing, and so early hopes were dashed.

Solon (Ia.) Economy (Ind.), May 5.—When a political party grows so old that it loses sight of the principles that brought it into life, it is very apt to concentrate its whole power upon a few persons as leaders. Instead of regarding the rank and file of the party as capable of thinking and acting from principles, they are regarded much as a flock or herd of cattle to be held subject to the will of a few leaders who plan and manage the campaign in their own interest. Time was when both the Republican and Democratic parties were moved by principles of truth which were reiterated in platforms from the national convention down to the county assemblage of the people's delegates. But that time seems to have passed by and the rule now with the politicians is to say as little as possible about principles and instead do as much blowing about persons as possible. This is a species of idolatry that we have no use for under a real republican form of government. Men are essential to carry principles into practice, but they are only to be found by observing the principles that govern their lives either as private citizens or in public

life. It is well to commend a public servant for doing his duty well, but when a lot of resolutions are strung out in praise of a few men and not a word said of the principles that the party stands for, there is pretty good evidence that the party is in its dotage and no longer fit to serve the entire people.

THE CONSERVATIVE.

(Cedar Rapids, Ia.) Why (s. t.), February.—The good old word "conservative" is once more being appropriated by the enemies of organized society and progress. We say once more, because the Tory party of Great Britain has called itself "Conservative" for generations and Americans—even those who belong to the Republican party—should be able to know what that kind of conservatism means. For centuries it has stood for class privilege as opposed to all movements for equality before the law. It was the "Conservative" party which imposed all of the tyrannies upon the American colonists, and goaded them to revolt and to strike for freedom. Essentially, the "Conservative" party has been the monarchist party with all of its superstitions and hatred of human rights. And now we are beginning to hear the word "conservative" used more in American politics than at any other time in our history. We hear it especially among that crowd of insurgent Democrats who refused to support Mr. Bryan in 1896 and 1900. "With a safe, conservative candidate for the presidency we can win," is one of their favorite phrases. The "safety" has reference entirely to the robbing privileges of the few and the earnest desire to conserve American torism. Can the people of the United States be bamboozled by this tricky misuse of terms as have the masses of Europe for centuries?

THE MORMON QUESTION.

(Solon, Ia.) Economy (Ind.), March 24.—From the amount of time taken up in the investigation of the Smoot case by the United States senate and the space taken in the daily papers, we may infer that this twin relic of barbarism—polygamy—is still likely to cut a swath in our national affairs. . . . Insert the word "polygamy" immediately after the word "slavery" in the first section of Article XIII, and the business of amending is done. But getting rid of the effects of polygamy would be quite as difficult as getting rid of the effects of slavery. Nevertheless, the only way to rid our country of the evils of polygamy is to cut off the thing by the same method that was used upon slavery.

IN CONGRESS.

This report is an abstract of the Congressional Record, the official report of Congressional proceedings. It includes all matters of general interest, and closes with the last issue of the Record at hand upon going to press. Page references are to the pages of Vol. 38 of that publication.

Record Notes.—Speech of Representative Cockran on ship subsidies (p. 6157). Speech on Military Academy appropriations by Representative Sulzer (p. 6169).

For there is no employment that gives so keen and quick a relish for peace as husbandry and a country life, which leave in men all that kind of courage that makes them ready to fight in defense of their own, while it destroys the license that breaks out into acts of violence and rapacity.—Plutarch (Life of Numa Pompilius).